

co-introduced that bill for the very reasons that Senator Beutler addressed, the fact that the average working man and woman that pull on their clothes every morning and go down to their job and try to make a living and buy a house or pay for a business or pay for a farm are about the only people that are left today paying the regular high rates of interest. I checked with the banks all over my district this morning. Most of them are charging 13.25 to 14.25 to 14.50. I absolutely defy the average individual to be able to pay that kind of interest and pay for a house or pay for a business. I know you don't have that kind of money in farming. We don't have in business and that is why you see most families today with two people working because there is no other way they can afford to pay for their home. I wish it were not necessary for us to involve ourselves in this kind of financing. As Senator Beutler has said, it ought to be put to a stop but it apparently is not going to be put to a stop. The very federal deficit I think that we address so many times, the \$200 billion plus deficit, is caused by the 14 percent interest rates. 14 percent interest on a trillion and a half dollars is roughly \$200 billion, give or take a billion or two. I'd just like to suggest that there has to come a time when someone puts the entire issue back in perspective. My question, and the reason I have supported these measures in the past, is because I just don't see how we can further penalize ourselves by isolating the State of Nebraska. I know it sounds ridiculous. It is like sliding down the barn roof. Once you start it you don't ever stop and it gets more and more ridiculous. We have seen some of the most fantastic structures in this city built with this kind of financing and I know that it gets to the point where we wonder if we will ever come back to the normal kind of an interest rate and a true interest rate on any project. Without exception, you talk to any businessman, any homeowner, any individual today, all of us are looking for some particular kind of financing that reflects our ability to actually pay the going rate of interest. It is almost impossible to find, but there are dozens and dozens and dozens of gimmicks. It comes back to what we said this morning. It is what Senator Beutler said this afternoon, what others have addressed here this afternoon. With a trillion dollar plus federal deficit that